

A devout Auburn fan, Milton also faithfully served as the official timekeeper of the Auburn Men's Basketball team for over thirty years.

Milton retired from the Alabama Power Company in 1989; however, he remained active in his local community—elected to serve on the Alabama Silver Haired Legislature and the Montgomery County Republican Executive Committee.

Milton was also a committed member of the Capital City Kiwanis Club, and he was a legislative volunteer for the Alabama Children's Trust Fund. Due to his extensive record of serving the men, women, and children of Alabama, Milton was later inducted into The Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

Milton spent much of his retirement with his family at their vacation home on Lake Martin, Alabama. He and his wife Sis enjoyed hosting their friends and family—often taking their children and grandchildren boating on Milton's pontoon boat.

Milton was preceded in death by his beloved wife of sixty-six years, Eloise "Sis" Jordan Taff; his parents Freeman and Elizabeth Short Taff; his brothers Clarence, Hillary, and Foy Taff; and his beloved granddaughter, Lauren Nicole Taff.

He is survived by his seven children: Terry, Jerry, Mickey, Kathy, Joey, Betsy, and Davy; thirteen grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Milton's lifetime of service and passion for his community has without a doubt created a lasting legacy for his friends, his family, and the entire state of Alabama. On April 20, 2022, Milton passed away at the age of 95, and he will be sorely missed.

SUPPORTING H.R. 1437, THE
PRECIP ACT OF 2021 AND H.R.
5324, THE NWR MODERNIZATION
ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1437, the "Providing Research and Estimates of Changes in Precipitation", or "PRECIP Act". I also rise in support of H.R. 5324, the "NWR Modernization Act of 2021".

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of Representative SHERRILL's bipartisan PRECIP Act. As Chairwoman of the Science Committee's Environment Subcommittee, Ms. SHERRILL has been a leader in improving our understanding how to plan for excess precipitation, which can often lead to severe flooding in inland areas. This bipartisan bill is a direct result of significant stakeholder engagement to understand the needs of local governments, dam safety officials, floodplain managers, and more, who use precipitation estimates regularly. Precipitation estimates are critical for life-and-death decisions, like whether to issue an evacuation order, and also inform flood maps and zoning restrictions.

Current estimates for precipitation frequency, or precipitation atlas, and PMPs are outdated, inconsistent across the country, and infrequently updated. The PRECIP Act directs NOAA to update precipitation estimates on a regular basis, and to ensure these estimates consider the effects of future climate change.

In order to address this knowledge gap, this bill directs the NOAA Administrator to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a consensus study on best practices for estimating precipitation. These best practices will be useful for updating Probable Maximum Precipitation, or PMP, estimates.

This bill also directs NOAA to update precipitation frequency estimates, including PMP estimates, no less than every 10 years, but we encourage them to consider more frequent updates when feasible. NOAA is also required to develop a National Guidance Document for precipitation methodologies. While the results of the Academies' study should inform the development of this National Guidance Document, we encourage NOAA not to delay any updates to PMPs, and the creation of a National Guidance Document for the final study, and to undertake these activities concurrently upon enactment of this bill.

Changes in precipitation are already being felt across the country, and it is critical for our local decision makers to have the most accurate information on hand to protect our communities. The activities authorized in the PRECIP Act will take a big step forward in doing this. I want to thank Representative SHERRILL for her work on this thoughtful, bipartisan, legislation and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

I also rise in support of the bipartisan NWR Modernization Act of 2021 led by Representatives BICE and SHERRILL, the Ranking Member and Chairwoman of the Environment Subcommittee on House Science. NOAA Weather Radio, or NWR, is a critical lifeline for Americans across the country. It provides continuous coverage of weather information and broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts. It also provides information after natural disasters and other hazardous events.

This important bill will expand NOAA Weather Radio coverage by directing NOAA to acquire additional transmitters. It will ensure that underserved communities are within range to receive the important alerts. The bill will also update telecommunications infrastructure and software that are critical to the system. I want to thank Representatives BICE and SHERRILL for their bipartisan work on this bill that will bring the NOAA Weather Radio into the 21st century.

Both of these bipartisan bills will provide benefits to Americans across the country, and are the product of good bipartisan work by Members of the Science Committee. I urge my colleagues to support their passage.

LUISA WILSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Luisa Wilson for her creative and unique drawing, earning her first place in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition.

As a participant in the art show and student at Golden High School, Luisa created a work of art entitled, "Stretched" which depicts a white face on a black background being pulled

back by three hands. It is created with ink on paper.

Luisa spent countless hours and used numerous tools to learn new techniques and refine her painting skills and education in the arts. I appreciate her participation in the competition and the support provided by her teachers at Golden High School.

Congratulations to Luisa Wilson for her hard work and participation in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition. I am certain she will exhibit the same dedication and character in her future accomplishments, and I wish her the best of luck going forward.

CONGRATULATING HALEY STEVENSON FOR BEING THE FIRST FEMALE FIREFIGHTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE GALESBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate City of Galesburg Firefighter Haley Stevenson on being sworn in as the first female firefighter in the history of the Galesburg Fire Department.

Growing up in Galesburg, Illinois, Haley Stevenson was enamored with the prospect of one day becoming a firefighter. Her father, retired Galesburg Fire Department Deputy Chief Brad Stevenson, was her role model, an admirable individual who served with honor. As she progressed through life, she continued to apply herself with diligence as she strived toward this goal, despite the Department never having had a female firefighter before her. On May 2, 2022, that changed when Stevenson was sworn into the Galesburg Fire Department at 22 years old. Firefighter Stevenson's father taught her how to pass the written test and oral interview. She also handily passed the physical agility test on her way to fulfilling her lifelong dream. Firefighter Stevenson is a trailblazer. Her presence in the Department will serve as a constant reminder to her peers and community to be unafraid of breaking barriers.

It is because of selfless leaders such as Firefighter Haley Stevenson that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally recognize Firefighter Haley Stevenson on being sworn in as the first female firefighter in Galesburg Fire Department history.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL
(RETIRED) DONNA R. WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Brigadier General (Retired) Donna R. Williams. Brigadier General (Retired) Williams has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

(Retired) Williams is a native of Vicksburg and earned her commission through the Senior Army ROTC Early Commissioning Program

(ECP) at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, where she also received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. She holds a master of business administration degree in Information Technology and Military Management from Touro University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College (USAWC), Carlisle Barracks, PA.

She served her Nation honorably as an Army Engineer Officer for 32 years. Brigadier General (Retired) Williams' duty stations included key developmental and career-enhancing assignments across the Continental United States, Hawaii, Iraq and other overseas assignments. Brigadier General (Retired) Williams is an employee with the Engineer Research and Development Center at the United States Corps of Engineers Reachback Operations Center in Vicksburg.

She is a proud member of the Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Vicksburg Branch of NAACP and a lifetime member of the Army ROTC Hall of Fame. She was recognized as the Vicksburg Post Hero of the week in April 2022.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brigadier General (Retired) Donna R. Williams for her passion and dedication to serve Mississippi and this Country.

GILLIAN MCCARRON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gillian McCarron for receiving the 2021 Woman of the Year Award by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. The Woman of the Year Award is given to a woman who has gone above and beyond to serve her community.

Gillian currently serves on the Arvada Economic Development (AEDA) Board of Directors as well as AEDA's Exterior Improvement Grant Committee and Economic Impact Committee. She is also currently the Chairman of Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth. Gillian serves on the Arvada Vitality Alliance Board of Directors and is active in the Ralston Valley High School's Boys Soccer Booster Club. Gillian is also a local business owner who supports local charitable efforts and is a passionate, supportive leader in the Arvada community.

Congratulations again to Gillian McCarron on this recognition from the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. I extend my deepest appreciation for her contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS STEWART

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Rollcall No. 141.

HONORING THE LATE SECRETARY
NORMAN MINETA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, as a proud member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I rise today to pay tribute to the founding Chair of our caucus and a dedicated public servant, the late Secretary Norman Mineta, who passed away on May 3, 2022.

It was an honor to serve my first term in Congress alongside Congressman Mineta. Norman was the son of Japanese immigrants who were held in an internment camp during World War II, and he would later become one of our country's highest-profile Asian American political leaders. In 1971, Norman was the first Asian American to lead a major U.S. city when he was elected Mayor of San Jose, California. In 1974, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives from California's 13th congressional district. He went on to serve ten terms in Congress and served as the Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In 2000, President Bill Clinton appointed Norman to be U.S. Secretary of Commerce and he became the first Asian American to hold a cabinet position. President George W. Bush appointed him U.S. Secretary of Transportation in 2001, making him just the fourth person to serve in the cabinet of two presidents from different political parties. He was highly influential in creating the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all my colleagues join in paying tribute to an extraordinary American and public servant.

HONORING COLONEL IGWEKALA
EDWIN NJOKU

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today as we celebrate the retirement of Colonel Igwekala Edwin Njoku after 28 years of service with the United States Army and 27 years of federal civil service with the Department of Energy. Colonel Njoku's decades of leadership and commitment to excellence have helped to set the strategic direction of the federal government and ensure the security and prosperity of our country.

Originally from Nigeria, Col. Njoku arrived in the United States in 1971 on a student visa. He attended the University of Massachusetts where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Biology and a Masters Degree in Health Physics and Nuclear Science. He later attended the New York Institute of Technology where he earned a second Masters Degree in Industrial Hygiene and Environmental Engineering Technology.

Col. Njoku eventually moved from the East Coast to California where he worked for the state Department of Health Services as a Senior Health Physicist. Shortly after, he joined

the California Army National Guard and later the U.S. Army Reserve. He served 28 years in the U.S. Army where he provided oversight on emergency response systems to the use of Weapons of Mass Destruction on the battlefield.

In addition to his consultant capacity, Col. Njoku gave on the ground support abroad. He spent a year deployed in Iraq as the Combined Joint Task Force-7 Radiation Protection and Laser Safety Officer. He also traveled to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the 1994 Agreed Framework, which suspended North Korea's nuclear power program in exchange for U.S. energy aid. When he retired from the U.S. Army as a Colonel, he was awarded the Legion of Merit for his work with the Joint Forces in Iraq, and his work on non-proliferation efforts in the Korean Peninsula.

On the civilian side, Col. Njoku served as a Certified Health Physicist with the National Nuclear Security Administration within the U.S. Department of Energy. During his 27 years of service, he ensured that radiological operations were implemented safely and improved federal oversight for various facilities and offices without expanding the oversight footprint.

Edwin Njoku's decades of service to the U.S. Army and the Department of Energy has truly had a global impact and has helped reinforce the security of our country and the world. I know that his impact and commitment to excellence will continue to reverberate in the years to come.

On a personal note, I've had the privilege of knowing Col. Njoku for more than 20 years and greatly admire his scientific brilliance and unwavering commitment to public service. I'm honored to have had his support over the years and wish him a wonderful and well-deserved retirement. One behalf of the 13th Congressional District of California, I commend Col. Igwekala Edwin Njoku for his tireless service and dedication.

NEVAEH SENA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nevaeh Sena for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Nevaeh Sena is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nevaeh Sena is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nevaeh Sena for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.